

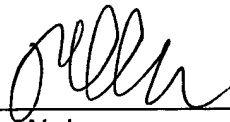
REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected some of the claims over the prior art. However the examiner has indicated that claims 18 and 31 describing 'means for lowering the solder surface for effecting withdrawal of the component leads from the solder' are allowable. In response, these two claims have been cancelled and the limitations have been introduced into independent claims 8, 9, 20, 25, 29, 32 and 35. It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1730.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 17, 2005

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via First Class mail service in a post-paid envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 17, 2005.


Susan Piperno